



*Where Curiosity Never Retires*

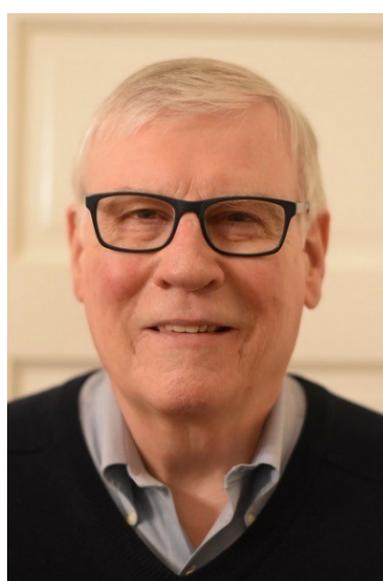


OLLI NEWS — July 2, 2021

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## Letter from the Chair



For OLLI at AU, June is traditionally a time of transition. The OLLI Board bids farewell to departing members, welcomes new ones, elects new officers, reviews and approves the budget for the coming year, and approves the committee chairs and coordinators. This time, however, June also marked

two new and particularly significant milestones. Last week, for the first time in 16 months, the OLLI Board met in person and in our facilities in Spring Valley. The next day, across the street at Pizza Paradiso, Social Committee Chair Jeff Porter hosted the first in-person Social Hour since the shutdown, bringing together long-absent friends and colleagues, many of whom were venturing out to a restaurant for the first time. Thanks, Jeff. We needed that.

Last week, the Board said goodbye to departing members Lew Cohen, who served six years on the Board, and Linda Kiser, who served two. Lew and Linda, thank you for your able service. We also welcomed new members: Stuart Frisch, who served as Chair of the Personnel Committee for the past two years, and Penny Hansen, a long-time SGL (The Supreme Court and, more recently, Populism). Welcome aboard! Board Chair Judy Havemann, who provided unerring leadership during our most challenging year as an organization, completed her term of office and stepped down. Having served as Judy's Vice Chair for the past year, I have the honor and privilege of taking her place as the new Chair. Fortunately, Judy remains on the Board where we will continue to draw on her extensive knowledge and experience. The Board also elected Dave Hensler as the new Vice Chair, Martha Cutts as Secretary, and Jo Anne Friedenthal as Treasurer, with both Martha and Jo Anne reprising those roles.

With the June Minis coming to an end and the July Shorts locked in place, the Board and staff are now focused with increasing excitement on the fall semester, when OLLI at AU will have the opportunity to begin gathering as a community once again. In September, we will reopen the OLLI social space so members can mingle over coffee or lunch. Field trips and other in-person activities will be back on the menu. Most important, for the first time since March of 2020, we will have some in-person classes. We will be offering a heady combination of in-person, hybrid (mixed in-person and Zoom), and Zoom-only classes. The staff is currently working with SGLs, interns, and others to make sure all these moving parts come together smoothly.

Colleagues, it has been a challenging year for OLLIs all around the country, many which suffered sharp drops in membership and some which closed down completely. But OLLI at AU has not only survived, we have thrived thanks to our extraordinary staff—Tony, Mary Fran, Lesley, Jesse and Niranjan—and our committed SGLs and members.

Looking forward, COVID restrictions are rapidly dropping off, travel is opening up, and friends and families are being reunited. Please everyone have a safe and happy holiday wherever you are as we celebrate America's 245th birthday.

John Bargeron  
Chair, Board of Directors

## Feedback

As you finish your June Minis classes, please take a few minutes to complete the anonymous [feedback form](#). You can also access this form on the OLLI website under "Study Groups." Feedback will be accepted through **Friday, July 9**.

Your feedback will be shared with the Study Group Leader and read by the Curriculum Committee and OLLI office. Feedback can be words of encouragement, letting SGLs know what you most enjoyed about the course, as well constructive criticism, if any, that might be helpful for the next time.

## Holiday Closure

We wish all our members and readers a very Happy Fourth of July! The OLLI offices will be closing today, Friday, July 2 at 12 noon and will remain closed on Monday, July 5 in observance of Independence Day. We will re-open on Tuesday, July 6.

## July Shorts

### Register for July Shorts, 7/12 - 7/16

The July Shorts will meet over Zoom 3, 4, or 5 times within the one week. Several Shorts are still open, and members can continue to register for up to 3 courses for \$75. Requests for refunds must be made in writing (via e-mail to [olli@american.edu](mailto:olli@american.edu)) by close of business, Friday, July 9. **Last day for course changes and refunds is Friday, July 9. [Register.](#)**

### Zoom Links for Classes

Zoom links will be emailed to registrants each morning on the days of class. They will come from the email address: [maryfran@american.edu](mailto:maryfran@american.edu). If you do not receive the email, please check your spam/junk and trash folders. The links are the same for all sessions of a class. So, any link received for a class can be saved and used for all sessions of that class.

### Books

As usual, OLLI is working with Politics and Prose for books this summer. To purchase books for classes, members can do any of the following:

- Order from their [website](#)
- Call 202-364-1919 to order over the phone
- Visit Politics and Prose in person at 5015 Connecticut Ave NW

If purchasing books via their website, mention in the notes field that the book is for an OLLI course. Their web orders team will apply the 10% discount to your credit card when it is officially processed. If you call or shop in person, mention the discount when paying. Politics and Prose encourages online orders over phone orders, as the phone lines can have long wait times.

Another source for supporting independent bookstores is [www.indiebound.org](http://www.indiebound.org), which lists all independent bookstores by zip code.

### Books not available at Politics & Prose:

Course# 963 American Century Cycle (August Wilson): Themes and Character Development:

**Book:** *Layman's Guide to Ten Plays in the August Wilson American Century Cycle.*

(The SGL will let class members know how they can purchase the book.)

## June Minis

### SGL Gifts

To make a gift to your SGL(s), please go [online](#) or mail a check to OLLI by Friday, July 9. We will collect all gifts, write a check to each SGL, and mail the check with any notes from members to the SGL(s).

**Please note OLLI's donations software only allows users to make three (3) gifts in one day. If you want to give a fourth gift, please contribute two days after your initial three gifts. SGL gifts will be accepted through Friday, July 9.**

## Recordings

Most classes are being recorded. The page for class recordings is [https://www.ollidc.org/2021\\_june\\_minis\\_recordings](https://www.ollidc.org/2021_june_minis_recordings) and can be accessed until July 16. Class recordings will be posted each day by 5:00 PM. Only members taking June Minis classes can access this page. You will need your OLLI username and password to log in.

## Serendipity Talk: David Kuney on Reclaiming My Family's Jewish Identity, July 28

**David Kuney, *On Rockingham Street: Reclaiming My Family's Jewish Identity—Our Journey from Vilna to the Suburban South***

**Wednesday, July 28**

**3:30-5:00 PM, via Zoom**

Wipf & Stock has just published David Kuney's intergenerational memoir that explores how assimilation of Jewish immigrants arriving from Eastern Europe in the early 20th century was shaped and affected by the culture of the Suburban South in the 1950s and 1960s. It probes the key question of Jewish continuity, including whether American Judaism has left many Jews unable to answer the question, "Why are we Jewish?" The talk will include readings from the memoir.

*David Kuney is an Adjunct Professor at Georgetown University Law Center. He currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Pardes Institute of Jewish Studies. More information on the book and David can be found at <https://www.davidkuney.com>*

**No registration is required. The Zoom link will be e-mailed to all those subscribed to the OLLI newsletter the morning of the talk.**

## Virtual Tour Series: The Heart of DC!

**Virtual Tour Series: The Heart of DC!**

**First Session: The National Mall—Western End**

**Monday, July 19, 3:30-4:30 PM**

Join OLLI for a series of illustrated talks led by Tammy Belden, Trips Coordinator and professional tour guide, on our capital's "historic center" and its most iconic memorials and sites. Although you already may be familiar with many of these, we will cover some controversies, engaging anecdotes, and facts that you may not have heard. Our first talk will begin with the western end of the National Mall. Of course, you are familiar with the Lincoln, Korean War Veterans, and Viet Nam Veterans memorials, but perhaps we can deepen your knowledge of these with some more obscure and lesser-known information. We will also cover some of the smaller buildings and memorials nearby that you might not have seen. For example, did you know that the Lincoln Memorial was struck by anti-aircraft fire during World War II? It was friendly fire! We have more like that!

**Registration for the event is not required. Zoom invitations will be sent to all members on the morning of the event. Please check your spam and junk/trash folders.**

## American University News & Events

### AU ARTS

Home of AU's performing, visual, literary, and media-based arts. View the schedule and registration

links [here](#).

## AU MUSEUM

Patrons and university community members can now experience shows on display at the [Katzen Arts Center](#), as the museum is open to visitors.

Follow the museum on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#). You will find e-book catalogs, artist-inspired children's art activities, playlists inspired by exhibiting artists, information on virtual events, and more.

## SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

### Population Crisis? Migration, Growth, and Their Impacts

Wednesday, July 7 • 12:00-1:00 PM • Streaming

SIS professors Austin Davis, Rachel Robinson, and Tazreena Sajjad discuss the impact of population growth and migration and how it will affect our future. [Register](#).

## OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE AT AMERICAN UNIVERSITY MISSION

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at American University is an association of, by, and for the people in the Washington, DC area who wish to continue to study and learn.

OLLI at AU is dedicated to the proposition that learning is a lifelong process and that *curiosity never retires*.

**Website** [www.oli-dc.org](http://www.oli-dc.org) | **Phone** 202-895-4860 | **E-mail** [oli@american.edu](mailto:oli@american.edu)

**Study Group Location** 4801 Massachusetts Ave. NW

**Mailing Address** 4400 Massachusetts Ave NW | Washington, DC 20016

Tony Long, *Executive Director* | Mary Fran Miklitsch, *Deputy Executive Director*

Lesley Diaz, *Academic Programs Coordinator*

Jesse Williams, *Operations Coordinator*

Niranjan Singh, *Administrative Coordinator*

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